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Washington, D.C. –Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) today released the following statement regarding the conflict between Russia and Georgia:

“I strongly condemn Russia’s coordinated assault and invasion of the sovereign, democratic Republic of Georgia. In an attempt to re-establish control over its neighbors through military force, Russia is sending a worrisome signal to the international community that its vision of the future looks like the troubled Soviet past.

“As a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on State Department and Foreign Operations, I support the Bush Administration’s commitment to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to relieve the Georgian peoples' suffering. The United States and our European allies should now initiate high-level, persistent diplomatic talks with Georgia and Russia, focused on restoring and sustaining a cease-fire.”

Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-4) serves on the House Appropriations Subcommittee on State Department and Foreign Operations and the Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs.

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